For the Building Fund of the

Young Women's Christian Association

Scranton, Pa. Inted by the Seruntan Tribune Pub Habing Co.

Editorial Staff MISS SUSAN C. DICKINSON

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This is Ascension Day-one of the great festivals of the Christian year Certainly no more auspicious day could the paper for the benefit of a great Christian work have possibly had

The story of Frances Slocum, "Maconaqua," told on another page of this paper by a descendant of one of her brothers, is a fresh reminder that "the Lost Child of Wyoming." famous in song and story, has many relatives still living in Scranton-once named, in its earlier days, Slocum's Hollow, because of the residence here, the property owned, and the enterprises started in what is now South Scranton by some of her nearest of kin in the second generation. Others still live near her own birthplace-in the very heart of the upper end of the far-famed Vale of Wvoming, and some in Wilkes-Barre. Not for many and many a generation will her name and memory, nor the tragedy that her fate made of her mother's life, fade from the annals of history-least of all in this beautiful mountain region of northeastern Pennsylvania, of which the Wyoming Valley forms the heart.

One of the intensely interesting articles which "Our Woman's Paper" publishes today will have a personal charm for a wide public beyond the limits of northeastern Pennsylvania, recalling the pleasure that came to lovers of true literature whenever a new poem bearing the signature of "Stella of Lackswanna" appeared. We are glad to be able to present with it a likeness that really recalls her sweet face to those who ever looked on it in

AN EXPLANATION.

To many of our readers the work on a thirty-page paper made up of original material may not appear a task of great magnitude. The mere statement of details is powerless to convey the impression of the enormous amount of labor entailed. The facts that nine tons of paper were consumed, and also that to contain the printed sheets, a room 20 feet by 12 feet would be filled to the ceiling, are but a trifle in comparison with the continuous drudgery connected with the undertaking. To complete this large issue meant that about one hundred and fifty columns of proof were read at least three times and that of Scranton's advantages, its social every line of copy was carefully pe- charm, its progress and development in rused and the necessary changes and many lines apart from the industrial printer's hands, and that untold worry and oulm, by its great steel mills, maregarding the proper placing was also chine shops, its immense silk and woolsuffered. It meant that much of this en factories, its lace factory and othwork fell upon one or two persons and ers too numerous to mention. These that it was all accomplished by the five have been exploited through many members of the editorial staff. It sources, far and wide. meant that these five women have completely in the space of twenty.

The contributors who this morning tractive home. find their articles condensed almost to the vanishing point, their clever illus- al pages of this paper will settle the trations made commonplace, and ev- question beyond a doubt. The history ery fine climax destroyed, will not feel of its churches, its philanthropies and any more unhappy over the mutilation, charities, the story of its schools and the ruthless vandalism, than did the kindergartens, the showing of the vandals themselves, who metaphoric- great number of Scranton girls who, ally tore their hair and wailed over the thoroughly prepared to enter colnecessity that confronted them, ex- lege, are now here through their repreclaiming at frequent intervals: "How sentatives vieing with each other in can we cut out that beautiful pas- telling of their alma maters, are rich sage?" "Oh, dear! that I should be in their witness to Scranton's religious, obliged to blue pencil this bright de- charitable and aducational high standscriptioni" "What a pity that we ards. Our departments of history, can't use these apt and charming quo- literature, fiction, poetry, of music and tations!" "If we only had room for art, and home decoration, our columns this sweet story." "It is too bad to of letters from brilliant Scranton wocondense that splendid article," etc.,

The editors performed the ungracious many a fair contributor will say: of my nice article, but I see they used a lot of trash they wrote themselves." This may be true to a great degree, Association page, with its related one

and our only excuse is that we have attempted to give the edition a character suited to an all-round newspaper as well as a literary journal, and we would endeavor to console those who have been badly treated by stating that the bright things we hoped to say; the burning words, the original thoughts we had expected to pen, that would have inscribed our names on the roll of fame throughout all time have also been-"crowded out for want of space."

HAIL! AND FAREWELL.

The editors of Our Woman's Paper, speaking for all their co-laborers in the work, give to-day their cordial greetings to the thousands of friends who have been awaiting the appearance of the paper into which so much labor of love has gone. The results of it all are here to speak for themselves, and, without undue vanity, we believe that they will be found worthy of welcome. Indeed, as the editorial staff has gone over all the bright and thoughtful, well written contributions sent in they have grown confident that the paper will long be preserved in

numberless homes as a souvenir. This day, as is already understood, is the only day upon which "Our Woman's Paper" will appear. Therefore with our editorial greeting we send to all our readers our best wishes that life may be for each and all of them rich in blessings and in the perception of the blessings that daily come to us all. That wish forms our farewell, pressing close, almost in the same breath, upon our greeting word.

THANKS THAT ARE DUE.

Our Woman's Paper, and all concerned in issuing it, offer their heartiest thanks to the daily papers of Scranton for kindly help ungrudgingly given. The proprietors and publishers of the Truth and the Republican have each generously allowed the time of a member of the editorial staff of each paper to be largely given to the preparation of this one and their columns and those of the Times, as well as of the Tribune, have daily stirred the public of Scranton and of neighboring communities to interest in the forthcoming publication. In the Tribune office every facility has been gladly placed at our disposal. From its business manager, the foreman of the composing room and all of his aids, have come the pleasant-

est and most considerate co-operation. To the business men of Scranton who have been quick to fill our advertising columns, with the full acknowledgment of reciprocity of benefits between them and the Young Women's Christian Association, the Executive Committee of the Association's Board of Managers and the business, managers of Our Woman's Paper tender the assurance of their appreciation of the welcome and responses given to the advertising committees.

OUR SHOWING OF SCRANTON.

Our Woman's Paper is a microcosm

But, what kind of a home is it? What grown gray during the past two weeks are the advantages it offers to any man in their efforts to plan the paper so and woman seeking to change their that everybody shall be satisfied. This home for financial reasons, for their impossible feat was abandoned several own happiness and comfort and for days ago, but another, almost as ap- their children's welfare. The pages of palling, remained and that was to de- Our Woman's Paper bear eloquent vise some miraculous arrangement testimony, testimony that can in no whereby material enough to fill fifty way be gainsaid or denied, as to Scranpages could be placed attractively and | ton's high place among American cities for those who seek for an every way at-

A look over the various departmentmen telling what frained eyes and richly stored minds have found worthy of record in travel, show forth by rich work, fully realizing that no doubt glimpses indicating so much more that lies behind, the advantages of culture "Dear mei They cut out the best part | and wide outlook upon life that Scran-

ton supplies, Our special Young Women's Chris-

on physical culture and the industrial articles prepared by a few of its great numbers of wage-earning members. come to add their weight of evidence to many other departments, all going to prove that, without reference to length of purse, Scranton cares for all its

Our especial reloiding is that all things herein set forth are but indications of the richness of the intellectual, moral and social fields, not in any way an exhaustive setting forth of the good things that Scranton offers as a home for those who seek life's best development.

ARMENIA AND AMERICAN WOMEN.

It is an exceeding great and bitter cry that goes up to heaven from the plains of Armenia where thousands of men, women and children have within the last eighteen months been martyred because of their Christian faithfrom the mountains where other thousands were forced to hide-from the desolated fields, the ruined towns and villages of a doomed Christian popula-

"The voice of thy brother's blood crieth up to Me from the ground," said the voice of the Almighty to earth's first murderer. The voice of our Christian brothers' and sisters' blood cries up to heaven now against not only the cruel and fanatical Moslem but against the Christian nations, each and every one, that have held back and allowed the slaughter to go on.

Without entering here into any discussion of the excuses given for the failure of Christian nations in their duty, there is most serious reason to remind all readers of a paper issued in behalf of a Christian association that, as individuals, the people of this Christian land have not yet fulfilled their pledges "to give all the help needed to save life and aid the wretched Armenian sufferers," when this people besought Clara Barton and the American Red Cross society to go to that land of desolation and give effectual aid to the missionaries in the work of relief.

Long before Miss Barton undertook to carry aid, relying on the Christians of America to supply her not merely with some funds, but with funds enough, another American woman, the heroic missionary, Dr. Grace Kimball, was carrying on an organized campaign of help. To her and to Miss Barton look up the relief army that is working to save a nation. Both of these women, who have taken their lives in their hands in order to carry on this campaign of help, who, in Christ's name, are encountering sadder sights and doing a more herculean work than that which has justly given Florence Nightingale's name to a world's reverence—are looking to America to supply the funds that must be forthcoming in yet greater measure if many American Christians do not intend to be numbered among those who ask, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Verily, we are his keepers, and to us comes the call to minister, through his

Armenian brethren, to Himself. American women have it always in their power to direct the attention of the most absorbed men, to rouse the hearts and consciences of the most indifferent ones. To all of us, women, comes the cry across the ocean from Christian sisters who, by thousands, have suffered from brutal soldiery a fate worse than death, and have looked upon the torture and death of fathers, husbands, brothers, tender little ones. Shall that cry be an-

PREPARING FOR LIFE WORK.

swered?

It was suggested to one of the editors of this paper that an article or editorial on the occupations of women would be interesting. The reply was that it would be merely a thing of names and would fill a column. It is true that women are doing many things and doing them well. But it is equally true, unfortunately, that many women are attempting many things and doing them in a superficial and careless way.

Some one has said that a few years ago women were only expected to keep house and sew, but now they must still do the same if they would meet the greatest demand and secure the highest wages. Have we not been often told that the best chefs were all men and had salaries of \$5,000 and \$10,000 a year. If women would only thoroughly prepare themselves and accept such positions they might command such wages. Also there is no reason why women should go to men to get their tailormade suits. Seamstresses and dressmakers who are really competent, accurate and reliable are always in de-

There is no doubt a mistaken idea in labor, and the fact that it is as honor- | tion.

able to work for a good woman in her home as to work for that woman's husband in his store or office. It is not so much what your work is as how it is done, is true always.

This wish for the more public work and newer occupations may need a little check. Too many girls are entering such professions and occupations at to early an age, with too little knowledge of the world, with a great lack of gen eral study and of special preparation for their work. They thereby bring dishonor upon all women's work, for it is assumed that their inefficient service is characteristic. They lower wages of really competent women by accepting wages less than the work well done should command. And they subject themselves to temptations they scarcely realize.

As an illustration, take stenography A few years ago the few young women who had studied stenography thoroughly could secure their positions by telegraph at ten dollars a week, the recommendation of their well-known teachers being sufficient guarantee of proficiency. Now, there have sprung up so many schools teaching short hand and type writing, so many girls are crowding into them and taking positions as soon as they can be obtained, at any salary that the standard of the profession is perceptibly lowered, and thoroughly educated women work at disadvantage.

As women we should use our influence to keep our girls at home and in school as long as we can, with the best influences possible of good books and good companions, and when they do earn their living insist that they choose, not what is most popular, but that for which they are best adapted, and accept positions of responsibility only after due consideration, with proper preparation and with earnest purpose to be womanly and strong in whatever they do. For the great army of those for whom wage-earning is not a matter of choice but necessity we must endeavor to secure good wages and courteous treatment on the part of employers and customers, and offer opportunities through the Young Women's Christian Associations and manual training schools to supply their lack of early

THE Y. W. C. A. BUILDING.

There is slight occasion to tell why the Young Women's Christian association of Scranton desires a Home of its own-why it is issuing Our Woman's Paper to-day for the express object of starting a building fund-or why the women of the entire city have gone to work in various ways to make of this issue a success.

For to the whole community has be come evident that the work of the Association has so grown upon its hands as Scranton itself has grown, that its present rented quarters-pleasant as they are-or any others that could be so secured, are wholly inadequate to compass the work of the Association, in every way aiding and uplifting the multitude of young women who need a kindly sisterly or motherly hand held steadfastly out to them.

Why do not the churches do this work? is sometimes asked of us. The churches do perform it through ciation holds its life. It is as such that it desires to become more and more efficient. To attain far greater efficiency it needs its own Home, and is confident that the movement started by this paper to secure that Home will not be suffered to rest anywhere short of full accomplishment.

Port Huron, Mich., is the latest reported one of many western towns to adopt what is now known as the curfew law, forbidding every child under fifteen years of age to be on the streets after nine o'clock at night in summer, or after half past seven in winter, unless accompanied by parent or guardian. Such laws, if they are properly enforced, can do much to save young people from temptation, and to aid the general moral condition of any city.

There is exceedingly strong and increasing reason to remind the Spring Brook Water Supply Company, the Scranton Gas and Water Company, and all other water companies that if reservoirs full they will soon be compelled to make common cause against the criminal destroyers of this State's remaining woodlands, and to join with the minds of some of our girls. We all their might in the movement for need to emphasize the dignity of all re-forestation and for forest protec-

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The beauty of spring time, even in the cities! How every one seems to delight in the varied and tender green of the new leafage on each and every avenue favored by lines of trees. The problem therefore is the greater why Scranton avenues have not many more glorious elms and maples, water birches, plane trees, and all the other noble trees recently commended by Forestry Commisisoner Rothrock, in answer to the Secretary of the Board of Trade, as especially suitable for city growth in this locality and climate. Nothing else could add so much to the beauty and to the summer coolness of our asphalt-payed streets and avenues, or more promote the city's health in summer and the comfort of all who mus abide in town through the heated term

The notes that come in from Hones dale, with its pioneer Woman's Town Improvement Association, of all which that association's faithful and unresting work accomplishes ought to stir up Scranton women to secure in some wise a cleaner condition of the city streets. There is not any real reason not even a plausible excuse, for all the dirty paper, the fruit peel and other unornamental waste with which bundreds if not thousands of careless neople decorate our city's highways. The women of Wilkes-Barre, like those of many other cities, have been stirred to worthy emulation by the example of those of Honesdale. The Young Women's Christian Association itself might give a strong impetus to the work of having the streets kept clean. There may well be "a strong pull, a long pull, and a pull altogether" of Scranton women that shall stir the city's councils to more stringent sanitary ordinances and bring about police department vigilance to see such ordinances executed.

The musical world of Scranton has net with a great loss in the early death of that fine artist and greatly beloved citizen, Frederick F. Kopff. There was no cause to wonder over the fact that the Liederkranz Society which he so long directed could not sing at his funeral services, because their voices were choked by weeping-that hymns and chant had to be sung by those less closely connected with him. How greatly beloved he was by his pupils there is fresh evidence every time that any occasion arises to speak of him. From those not now in the city has come in the eloquent testimony of grief at their loss in his sudden summons hence-the full pause put to his earthly work by the Angel of Immortality just while all the world that knew him was looking for yet fuller fruition of his genius.

"Brother thou were, and minstrel Now fare thou well!

The lines written hundreds of years ago for another fit the feeling of a multitude of hearts for Herr Kopff, in Scranton, now; and the writer of these lines speaks for some at least of those who have said, "Do not let the Woman's Paper go forth without some tribute to that beloved musician and gentle spirit."

Speaking of the beauty of all these upper counties of the Keystone State any agencies. Of these agencies they memory recalls the strong and lovely have found the coming together of poems of its truest laureate, "Edith their women members in conducting May"-Miss Anna M. Drinker, whose Young Women's Christian Associations home of childhood, youth and early to be one by which they can win and womanhood was in Susquehanna counhold many young girls who are not ty, in or near its fair chief town, Monteasily reached by any of the other agen- rose. Long years of ill health silenced cles employed. It is as the agent and the richest and sweetest voice of song handmaid of the Church that the Asso- that ever told the loveliness of yet wholly unspoiled wildwood beauty and grandeur and no less sweetly the stories of old romance. Both editions of her poems are out of print-the Philadelphia one published somewhere in the fifties: the New York one issued some twenty years later. There should be another one issued, and it ought to be in every northeastern Pennsylvania library and home.

The yearly story of forest destruction by fires is being repeated all around us. That the origin of almost all of these fires is incendiary scarcely any one doubts. Not a few of them, deliberately destroying millions of dollars' worth of lumber, are started by persons owning no property themselves who destroy the forests for the sake of a berry crop. There is a law requiring the various county commissioners to ferret out and punish all persons starting forest fires. Has anyone ever heard of any county commissioner ever making the slightest attempt to obey this law? If so, when and where? Yet it is the wealth of the whole state, not merely of individuals, they really intend to keep their big that is thus swept out of existence. Every person now knows that forest ruin means the drying up of streams, the failure of water supply for crops, for cattle, for farm homesteads, for villages, towns and cities. They know that it means the absolute wiping out of existence of one industry after another,

from multitudes. The whole willow industry of Pennsylvania has become a thing of the past; yet the supplying of furniture, of baskets and other commodities made from that useful tree, a

the taking away of the means of living

generation ago was the source of happy iomes and of comfortable living for many hundreds of families. That is one single instance. Thousands of farms are losing their value because the streams have shrunk or disappeared, and with them the whole supply of moisture for the earth. Is this fair State to be turned into a desert simply because Pennsylvanians will not rouse themselve to put an end to reckless and to deliberate forest destruction?

The approach of Memorial Day gives emphasis to the appeal of the veterans of the Grand Army for help to secure an additional plot of ground in the cemetery wherein to lay their dead whose facilities contactly a secure of the contact of families cannot give them burial. No soldier who fought for the Union and risked his own life to save the life of the Nation, should be left to a pauper's grave. Every sentiment of patriotism, every feeling of humanity, demands Army posts should be fully responded to, and that, before Memorial Day of to, and that, ber this year arrives.

THE FLORA OF SCRANTON.

"When I heard the sound of going in the tops of the mulberry trees," I started, like David, for a battle in the woods for botanical specimens on the hills around Scranton, the 7th of March, 1894. picked twenty-three, none of them in bloom, but as desirable to a botanist as gaea, branches of shrubs and trees. On the 10th there were willow catkins and dicentra leaves. A week later the ar-butus was in bud and mitchella in fruit and many ferns perfect enough for a ouquet.
The 2nd of May, between Binghamton

and Syracuse, there were acres of Tril-lium grandiflorum, with the usual spring lowers of Caltha palustris (marsh marigold), etc. The 10th of May I picked Senecio, aureus, Pedicularis Cana-densis, Cardamine, the leaves with the taste of the true water cress and Clay-

At this time a Sarracenia taken from Wellesley Hills, Mass., the October be-fore, began to bud and finally bloomed, although the roots were only in water. The flowers did not color red, as in its native state.

Saturday, the 12th of May, I picked the beautiful bracted flowers of the Cornus florida, showy in bloom and fruit; Aza-leas, Gaylussacia, Polygala, paucifolia, which looks like purple butterflies and has the unique habit or evolution, of its fruiting flower out of sight.

The 21st an Attacus cecropia hatched from a cocoon picked in West Albany the previous September. This moth can be well considered in a botanical article, for a month later it laid ninety and nine eggs. These all hatched and from them I identified the caterpillars that denuded the leaves of the Aesculus,-Horse-chestnut, A little care in col lecting and destroying the cocoons, for instance a prize to the small boy who would gather the greatest number might save some of the shade and preerve the natural elegance of this tree so beautiful in flower and leaf.
At this time I found some Diatoma-

ceae in the reservoir water. These are silicious plants and never visible to the unaided eye; their structure is beautiful and regular and they make not only ineresting, but test specimens for the

Saturday, May 26th, I picked a ripe wild strawberry Coryadalis, Hypoxis, Cornus Canadensis, surprising to a tyro as its white involucre is not a c olla, Azalea, Anemenes and a passe Cy-pripedium spectabilis, showy Ladies' Slipper, and many of the Labiatea.

June 2nd the Veronicas, Hawkweeds, Nabulus, Agrimony, Amelanchier, Andromeda, Baptisia, Brunella, Ranucuus, Linaria, Cinque-foll, Crataegus Sambucus, Viburnum, Polygonatum Eupatorium, Hamamelis, Podophyllum Saxifrage, Spiraea, Comptonia, Taraxacum, etc., were in evidence as just com-ing into bloom, in prime, or passing

Thursday, June 28th, a Tilia on one of the streets was in full bloom and very beautiful; near it was a Fagus, or pur-ple or copper beech, each showing off the other by contrast. At this time I placed a leaf of the Deutzia scabra under a two-inch objective, and saw stars on both sides. These stellate hairs on both sides. These stellate hairs make one of the most attractive microscopical specimens

There are four Salisburia-Japanese Ginkgo trees in Scranton, one of them near the Library. All are staminate. The only pistillate trees that I know in this country are in Central Park; the ground under them in the autumn is covered with their vile smelling nuts. Holmes mentions this tree on page 338 f the Autocrat, where the school misof the Autocrat, where the school mis-tress and himself start in the walk of

tress and nimser start in the waik of the long path together. At Lake Ariel on July 11th were the yellow lilies, wild roses, forget-me-nots, loose strife and rhododendrons. Friday, July 21st, 1893, I had a bou-quet from Tobyhanna composed of twelve kinds of wild flowers, among them monarda and Lilium Philadelphi-

May 23rd, 1895, I picked melanthemum—a long name for a little wild val-ley lily—Trientalis Polygonatum a genera, attractive in leaf, flower and fruit, but taking the name from the root, Also Oakesia, Stellaria, Medeola, Viola In the Fillices I picked Adiantum,

Pteris, Onoclea, Dicksonia, Osmunda. In Lycopodiacea were the L. dendroideum, Selagiuella and Clavatuem. In the Graminae were Dactylls, Poa Aira, Phalaris, Panicum. Affing the Equisetum there were many of the species in the spongy

The forest primeval has passed away and the trees are small; Quercus, Castanea, Fagus, Nyssa and some Conifers and Amelanchiers.

grows in the clefts of the rocks, fearle and graceful. This botanical specimen has been suggested for the national flower on account of three coincidences, besides its beauty and extended habitat. The aquila, an eagle from the resem-blance of the spurs to talons. The blance of the spurs to talons. The generic name Columbine from Columbus. The five petals representing a star-all favor its election and protec-

tion.

There is no doubt as to Scranton's city flower, for I stood one day with the cloudless blue sky overhead, and around me to the exclusion of everything else were the beautiful buds and flowers of the Laurel. the Laurel LUCY BRONSON DUDLEY.

Many Scrantonians will recall with pleasure their acquaintance with the writer of the article on "The Scranton Flora," when she was here with her husband, the inventor of the dynograph, in 1894. Last summer, he was a delegate to the International Railroad Congress, which met in London. Since then they have spent a delightful time in Europe and are now back in their New York home.

WHY THE POEM WAS LEFT OUT.

The chief editor came in a hurry today
And questioned: "Now what shall
I do?"
I must have a poem to fill out this page.
I have asked everybody but you".

"There was Editor Gates who said she would try
Were it not that religion must be
Considered the first, and there's so much
of that
To arrange in this paper, you see.

"There was Editor Kennedy, too, who is found
Whenever a good deed commends
'I'd be glad' (she declared) 'to make verse
by the foot
But I fear 'twouldn't match at the
ends.'"

"And Editor Carr who is clever and good And can talk and write jokelets alway, neommonly solemnly said 'If I could, But this is my History Day,'

So the editor came in a hurry to me A-wailing "Now what shall I de? I must have a peem to fill out this page I have asked everybody but you."

"No doubt 'twill be flat, but never mind that
The rest is so clever" (she said).
So I've tried but in vain and have writtes with pain
This brief explanation instead.
H. C. P.

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